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Action
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Control:

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Rec'd:

AUGUST 19, 1961

10:05 AM

Info

FROM: BERLIN

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 255, AUGUST 19, 2 PM

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PRIORITY

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/29/77

PER Electronic OFFICE EURFADRC FOI CASE NO. 710567 actualACTION DEPARTMENT 255, BONN PRIORITY 227, INFORMATION
LONDON 161, MOSCOW 154, PARIS 165, POLAD USAREUR 146.

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, STOESSEL AND MCGUIRE.

GDR STATE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN WALTER ULBRICHT AUG 18 IN TV-RADIO ADDRESS ADMONISHED EAST GERMANS TO TAKE NOTE EVENTS LAST WEEK AND TO GET TO "DISCIPLINED" WORK; URGED WEST GERMANS LEAVE NATO AND TO CHAIN "MILITARISM;" ENCOURAGED WEST BERLINERS TO DISPOSE OF BRANDT; AND REPLIED TO WESTERN PROTEST ON AUG 13 ACTION WITH COMMENT THAT IT WAS INTERFERENCE IN GDR INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THAT WESTERN POWERS THEMSELVES HAD BROKEN AGREEMENTS ON WHICH THEY BASED THEIR PROTEST.

ULBRICHT STATED THAT, AS RESULT OF EXISTENCE OF WEST BERLIN "CESSPOOL," MANY EAST GERMANS HAVE FORGOTTEN HOW TO WORK. NOW, HE SAID, THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE TAUGHT IN THEIR OWN INTERESTS TO GET USED TO PROPER WORK AGAIN, THOUGH THIS MIGHT BE HARD FOR SOME, HE STATED THAT GDR WOULD HELP THEM TO LEARN THAT "ALL WHO WANT TO EAT AND LIVE WELL MUST WORK HONESTLY, PROPERLY, AND WITH DISCIPLINE." HE WARNED THAT "WE ARE DETERMINED TO WIPE OUR SLATE CLEAN OF ALL EFFECTS OF FRONT CITY CESSPOOL". HE SAID THAT MANY HAD QUESTIONED USE OF ARMED FORCE TO BACK UP GDP MEASURES BUT THAT THIS HAD BEEN NECESSARY TO CARRY THROUGH "OUR PEDAGOGIC LESSON" SMOOTHLY AND TO MAKE "PROVOCATEURS RENOUNCE DANGEROUS INCIDENTS." HE SAID THAT MAIN TASK OF EAST GERMAN PEOPLE NOW

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ACTION
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-2- 255, AUGUST 19, 2 PM, FROM BERLIN

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WAS TO PREPARE FOR PEACE TREATY BY STRENGTHENING GDR, AND SAID THAT IN PREPARATION FOR SEPT 13 GDR ELECTIONS "WE WILL RECOGNIZE AND REMOVE REMAINING WEAKNESSES."

ULBRICHT'S TONE TOWARDS WEST GERMANS WAS PROUD, STERN AND CONDESCENDING, BUT INCLUDED SEVERAL WARNINGS THAT WEST GERMANS MUST "CHAIN MILITARISTS" NOW ALLEGEDLY RUNNING FEDREP. ULBRICHT BOASTED THAT RECENT GDR ACTION MAY HAVE SAVED PEACE OF WORLD AND THAT "WEST GERMANS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT WE MAY HAVE SAVED THEIR LIVES." HE SAID THAT PRESENT WEST GERMAN REPORTING ON FLOW OF REFUGEES AND THEIR PLIGHT WAS REMINISCENT OF NAZI TACTICS BEFORE INVASIONS OF POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WHEN NAZI PROPAGANDA ON "REFUGEES" SERVED AS PRETEXT "SALVATION" POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY INVASION. HE CLAIMED SYMBOL OF BRANDENBURG GATE, WORN BY MANY WEST GERMANS, WAS NOW AN EAST GERMAN SYMBOL OF HOW "WE HAVE BEATEN PLTRAS" AT GATES OF BERLIN. HE SAID THAT IN LIGHT NEW CONDITIONS NOW EXISTING "WE ARE READY TO ESTABLISH NEW RELATIONS ON BASIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH FEDREP." HE SAID THAT "OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN WEST GERMANY, IF THEY SHARE OUR ARDENT WISH TO BE AGAIN UNITED WITH US, MUST OPENLY AND HONESTLY STRIVE FOR REMOVAL OF REMAINS OF SECOND WORLD WAR, FOR PEACE TREATY, FOR DISARMAMENT IN ALL GERMANY, AND FOR NEUTRALIZATION OF GERMANY." HE SAID "WE WANT NO UNITY UNDER NATO." ULBRICHT ALSO ALLEGED THAT GDR MEASURES WOULD FACILITATE CONCLUSION OF PEACE TREATY, BUT WARNED THAT "WE MUST START FROM REAL SITUATION WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN GERMANY SINCE END OF WAR."

ULBRICHT ADDED THAT GDR, LIKE WEST GERMANS, REGRETTED THAT RECENT EVENTS MAY HAVE SPLIT GERMAN FAMILIES AND SAID THAT ONLY WAY IN WHICH THESE FAMILIES COULD BE REUNITED WAS FOR EAST GERMANS TO INVITE WEST GERMANS TO MOVE TO GDR, AND ANNOUNCED THAT "GDR GOVERNMENT WILL GENEROUSLY OFFER ASSISTANCE" FOR THIS PURPOSE.

LIGHTNER

RJT

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